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COMOR-M-26

COMMITTEE ON OVERHEAD RECONNAISSANCE

Minutes of Meeting Held in Room 429
Matomic Building, Central Intelligence Agency
at 2 p.m., 12 May 1961

PRESIDING

James Q. Reber
Chairman

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. H. M. Wiedemann, State	Maj. G. S. Chapman, Air Force	
Lt. Col. W. C. Herrington, JCS		NSA
Maj. J. D. Bowlby, Army		CIA
Capt. F. M. Murphy, Navy		

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CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Capt. E. E. Christensen, Navy
Cdr. J. V. Meigs, Navy
Lt. Cdr. R. E. Pyle, Navy

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1. A special meeting was called at the request of Capt. F. M. Murphy, Navy representative, who tabled a requirement for reconvergence of Cuba (details set forth in his memorandum of 12 May 1961, Ser NT-000101).

2. The Committee agreed on the following recommendation to go forward:

CINCLANT has requested weekly photographic coverage of selected targets in Cuba to meet his responsibilities as defined in his contingency plans. He requires the photo interpretation report and selected enlargements as soon as possible after each mission. At the present time there is no authority for photo coverage to meet this requirement. Therefore, the Navy has requested that this requirement be met by TALENT coverage.

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The COMOR has endorsed this requirement and recommends that necessary authority be obtained.

3. The Committee discussed the problems incident to rapid processing and PI reporting along the following lines (these views were considered relevant for discussion subsequent to a decision on whether recoverage is permissible on a weekly basis):

Previous missions over Cuba were based at Del Rio, where there had been established special photo processing and PI arrangements, as well as a communications setup not only to service Operations but also to permit rapid reporting of the preliminary interpretation of the photography. Operations has been contemplating, in the event that recoverage is required, the use of one of two bases in Florida. In order to meet the rest of CINCLANT's requirement, namely, for the most rapid information reporting and availability of selected photo prints, it would be necessary to establish a secure facility at the Florida base as well as to move in photo processing and other gear to meet his need. At the moment the photo processing personnel and communications arrangements at Del Rio have been dismantled and if Del Rio were used, they would have to be re-established. The processing facility at Del Rio is in place. In choosing between these two bases, it should be noted that on the occasion of the last mission, communications arrangements had been established to provide the PI information to CINCLANT in a satisfactory time period. Were Del Rio to be used, it is almost certain that enlargement capabilities would be available to meet the scale of photography which he requires.

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JAMES Q. REBER

Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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5--OACSI TCO
6, 7--ONI TCO
8, 9--AFCIN TCO
10, 11--NSA TCO

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13--DDI(P) TCO
14--OCI TCO
15--OSI TCO
16--ORR TCO
17--Director, NPIC
18--TSO CIA
19, 20--C/DMD/NPIC
21--DDP TCO
22--Intel Staff/DPD
23--SO/DPD
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